

A Forested Public Water Supply Perspective on Producing Clean Water in an Era of Change

Topics Covered in this Presentation

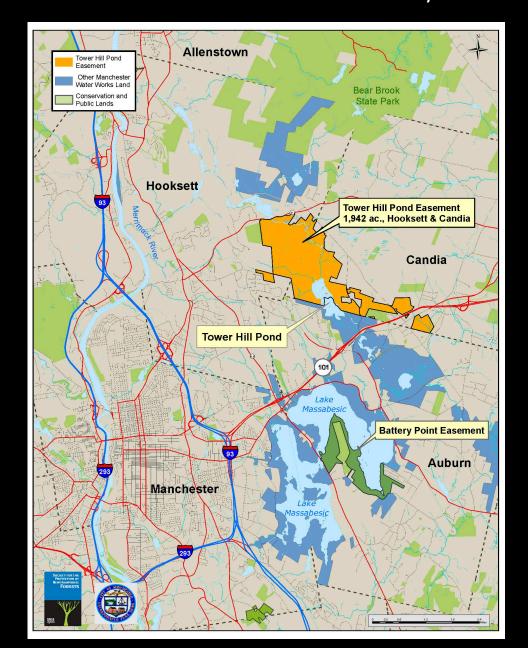
Conservation Easement Partnerships Land Acquisitions Forestry Challenges Recreational Pressures Stormwater Runoff

John O'Neil
Watershed Land & Property Manager
jmoneil@manchesternh.gov

Conservation Easement Partnerships

Cooperative Drinking Water Projects between

Manchester Water Works and Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests

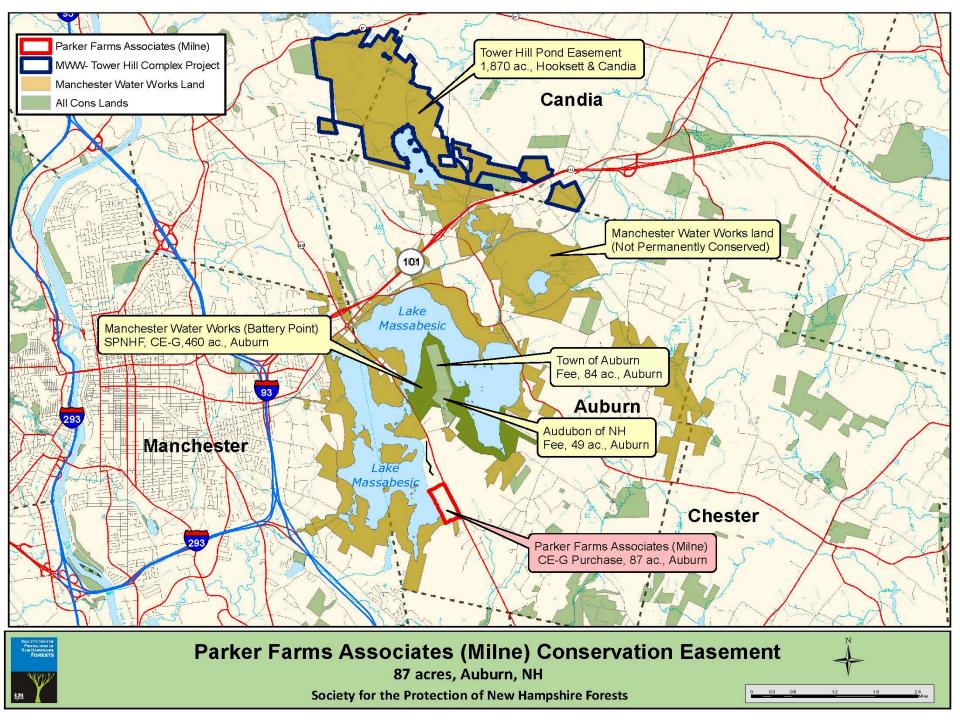




2007 – Battery Point Easement Project 460 acres, Auburn, NH

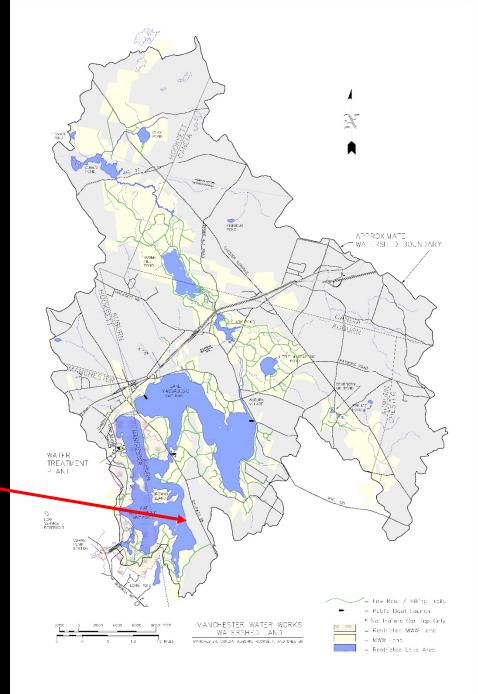


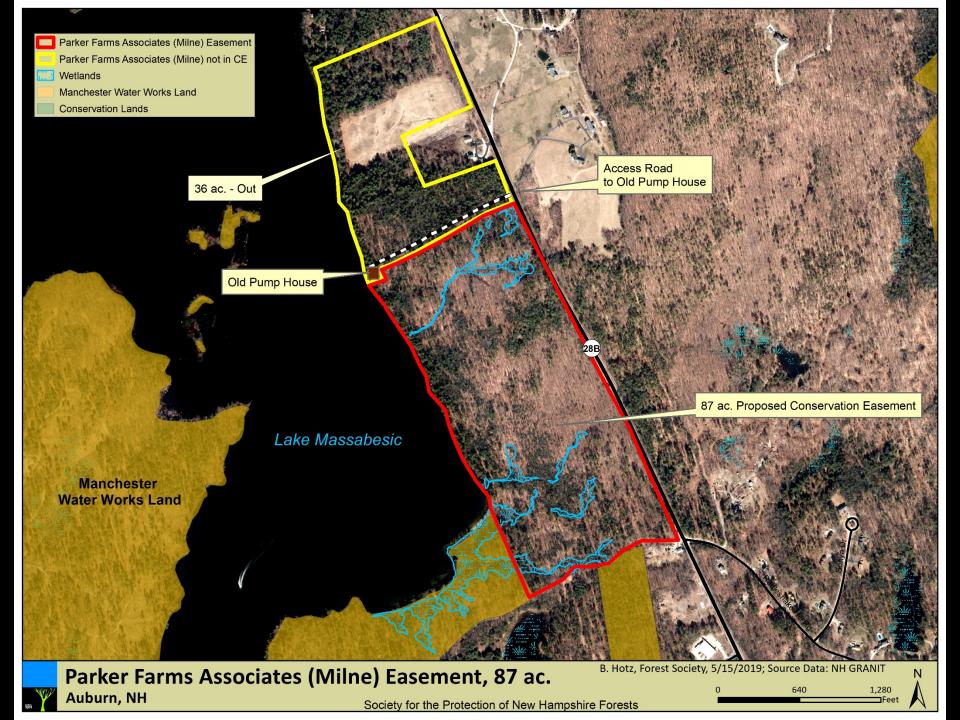
2019 - Tower Hill Pond Easement Project 1,942 acres, Candia & Hooksett, NH

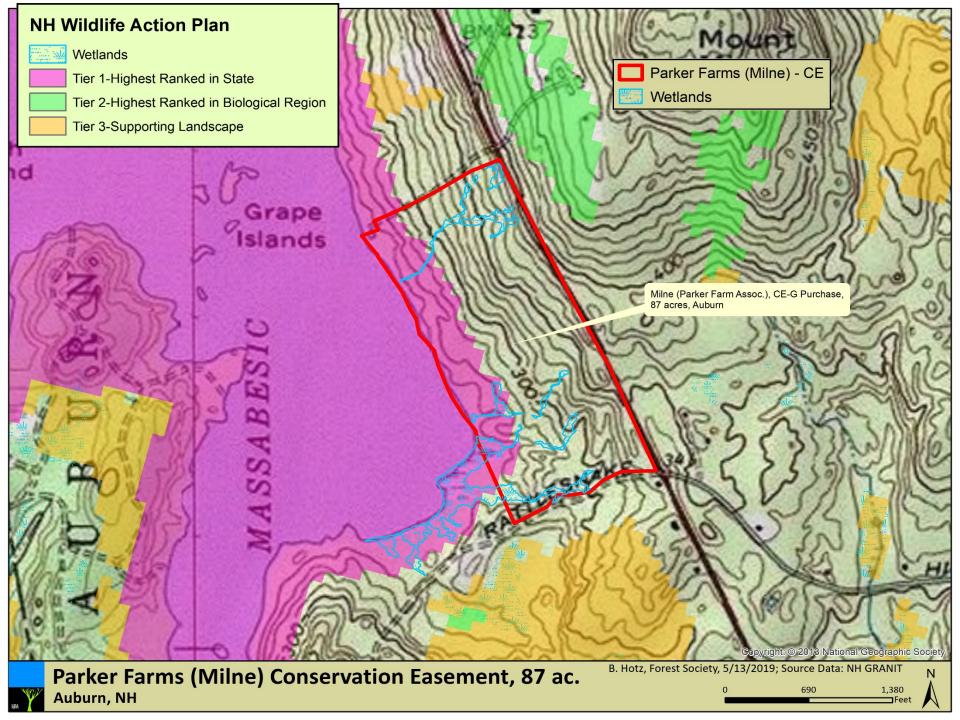


The last undeveloped Parcel on Lake Massabesic not owned by MWWW



















Project Costs

Conservation Easement Value \$850,000

Project Expenses

\$48,450

(expenses - legal, survey, transaction, stewardship, etc.)

Total Project Cost

\$898,450

Funding Sources

Grants

•	NH DES Drinking Water Grant	\$48,450
•	NH DES Drinking Water Ground Water Trust Fund	\$375,000
•	NH DES Aquatic Resources Mitigation	\$375,000
•	Manchester Water Works (pending proposal)	\$100,000

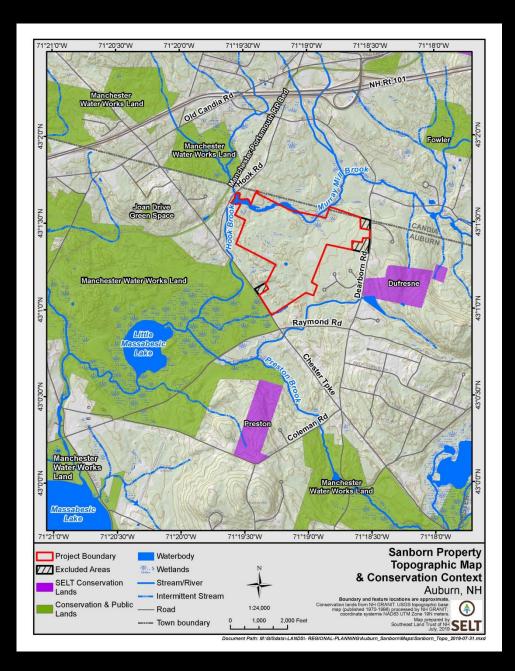
Total \$898,450

MWW and SELT

The Manchester Water Works (MWW) and the Southeast Land Trust (SELT) are partnering on a privately owned property in Auburn, NH.

MWW is contributing \$50,000 to this project.

It is a \$1.3 million property which is now a \$675,000 project.



Land Acquisitions

Land Acquisition Plan

- Currently MWW owns 400+ deeds, totaling over 8,000 acres and were bought for \$2.6 million (mostly before 1950).
- Vacant land in watershed is around 400 properties, totalling almost 8,000 acres, with an assessed value of \$32 million.
- Homes with backland are around 300 properties, totaling 5,000 acres, with an assessed value of \$76 million (The home costs need to be removed).

Recent Projects: 2012-2019

- Vaillancourt Property: 21 acres in Auburn, NH. Very close to Lake Massabesic. Property abuts a major wetland complex which feeds a major tributary to Lake Massabesic. Purchase Price \$100,000.
- Harrison Trust Property: 6 acres in Hooksett, NH abutting Tower Hill Complex. It has a ROW access, a building lot, and designated prime wetlands. Purchase price \$22,000.
- Babin Property: 2 acres in Auburn, NH. Purchase price \$470,000.
- Eustice Griffin Property: 13 acres on Preston Brook and Raymond Road. Purchase Price \$20,000.

Forestry Challenges



Severe weather events (2010)



Red Pine Scale (2012)



Regeneration (1997-2019)



Mixedwood



Hardwood Group Selection



Emergents

- Needle cast fungus stressors
- Emerald Ash Borer
- Hemlock Wooly Adelgid
- Droughts?
- Floods?
- Category 5 Hurricane?
- Markets/People/Politics?

Recreational Pressures

Forested Watershed Benefits

- A forested watershed provides scenic beauty.
- A forested watershed provides a rural appeal to the local community.
- A forested watershed can provide a recreational and a educational experience if open to the public.
- However.....
- People bring with them:

Trash, poop, erosion, oversight, headaches for a public water supply staff.





You can't make this stuff up!





Illegal Trails Suck



It's feces not manure





Stormwater Runoff

Mother's Day Flood 2006



Forests and Stormwater

- Forests store water in their roots, trunks, stems, and leaves.
- Young and healthy forests store more water and nutrients than older forests.
- Forest soils absorb more rainwater and runoff than farm fields, lawns, buildings, sidewalks, or parking lots do.
- Forests buffer road runoff by capturing salt, sand, and chemicals that could travel in runoff.
- Forests slow down water flows to filter out contaminants.
- Forests minimize turbidity in the lake by containing runoff.

New Trends

- UNH Stormwater Certificate
 - Seven workshops
 - Hydrology, Design, System Performance, Controls, and Modeling
- NHDES NH Voluntary Salt Applicator Certification
 - Salt Applicator Form
 - Green SnowPro Refresher Course
 - Annual NH Salt Symposium
 - Free salt accounting system
- NH Road Agents Association

